

## Message Text

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ORIGIN PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 /022 R

DRAFTED BY S/PRS:SPOULAIN:AVW

APPROVED BY S/PRS:RLFUNSETH

S/S -WHLUERS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 057871

TOSEC 516

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, H. A.)

SUBJECT: COMBINED MEDIA REPORT - FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1975

NO. 23

FOR AMBASSADOR ANDERSON FROM S/PRS

SUMMARY: HAK RETURNS JERUSALEM. NBC-TV TODAY BROADCASTS  
BRIEF FILM EXCHANGE HAK AND SADAT. U.S. OFFICIALS ACKNOW-  
LEDGE ISRAEL FACED WITH CRUNCH. ISRAEL'S GEN. GUR WARNS  
GUERRILLA BUILD UP BEFORE HAK'S ARRIVAL.  
R/TV

1. FRANK BLAIR, NBC "TODAY": HAK FLEW FROM EGYPT TO ISRAEL  
THIS MORNING WITH SPECIFIC NEW PROPOSALS FROM SADAT FOR  
TROOP DISENGAGEMENT ON SINAI. REPORT BY SATELLITE FROM  
RICHARD VALERIANI:

IMMEDIATELY AFTER RETURNING TO JERUSALEM HAK WENT DIRECTLY  
TO A MEETING WITH ISRAELI NEGOTIATING TEAM TO REPORT ON  
HIS TWO DAYS OF TALKS WITH PRESIDENT SADAT.

...FOLLOWING LAST NIGHT'S THREE HOUR SESSION IN ASWAN, HAK  
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GAVE FIRST REAL INDICATIONS OF PROGRESS.

SECRETARY KISSINGER: WE HAVE PASSED FROM EXAMINATION OF  
GENERAL PRINCIPLES TO THAT OF EXAMINING CONCRETE IDEAS

AND I SHALL NOW BE TAKING SOME OF THESE CONCRETE IDEAS TO ISRAEL TOMORROW.

SADAT: I CONFIRM WHAT HAK SAID.

DO YOU EXPECT, ON BASIS OF CONCRETE IDEAS YOU ARE TAKING BACK TO ISRAEL, THE CABINET WILL BE IN A POSITION TO MAKE CONCRETE IDEAS OF ITS OWN ON SUNDAY?

SECRETARY: I AM, OF COURSE, IN NO POSITION TO SPEAK FOR ISRAELI CABINET, BUT I WOULD EXPECT THERE WILL BE SOME COMPLETE ISRAELI IDEAS WHEN I RETURN NEXT TIME.

IT'S HAK'S VIEW THAT ISRAELIS MUST COME UP WITH SOME CONCRETE IDEAS OF THEIR OWN TO KEEP NEGOTIATION PROCESS GOING, BUT THEY ARE NOT EXPECTED TO DO THAT UNTIL AFTER THEIR REGULAR WEEKLY CABINET MEETING ON SUNDAY. EGYPTIAN SOURCES CLAIM THAT NEGOTIATIONS HAVE ADVANCED SO FAR THAT EGYPT AND ISRAEL ARE ALREADY WORKING FROM A DRAFT OF AN AGREEMENT, AND HAK IS SO CONFIDENT OF A NEW DEAL, THAT HE IS ALREADY TRYING TO ARRANGE A NEW ROUND OF TALKS BETWEEN SYRIA AND ISRAEL. BUT AMERICAN OFFICIALS CLAIM THAT IS NOT TRUE. JUST BEFORE RETURNING HERE, HAK TOLD NEWSMEN ABORAD HIS PLANE THAT PROGRESS IS BEING MADE, BUT SLOWLY. HE SAID HE IS HOPEFUL TWO COUNTRIES CAN REACH AN AGREEMENT BUT HE ADDED IT'S FAR FROM GUARANTEED.

2. KALB, TV, TEL AVIV: AS ONE AMERICAN OFFICIAL PUT IT, AS HAK'S PLANE LANDED HERE, "THE TIME HAS COME FOR ISRAEL TO REVISE HER POSITION." SECRETARY MEETS WITH TOP ISRAELI LEADERS THIS AFTERNOON AND THIS EVENING HE HAS A PRIVATE DINNER WITH PM RABIN. HAK LEFT ASWAN WITH WHAT HE CALLED "CONCRETE IDEAS FROM SADAT FOR A MAJOR SINAI AGREEMENT". THE FACT THAT IT IS CONSIDERED MAJOR BY EVERYONE SUGGESTS IT IS BASED ON IDEA THAT ISRAEL WILL GIVE UP TWO STRATEGIC PASSES AND OIL FIELDS IN SINAI DESERT. HAK IS HERE TO UNCLASSIFIED

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GET A MAJOR CONCESSION FROM ISRAEL, A CHANGE IN ITS FORMER POSITION FOR THE PASSES ISRAEL REQUIRES CLEAR MOVEMENT TOWARDS ENDING STATE OF WAR BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. SADAT MIGHT HAVE GIVEN SECRETARY SEVERAL CLEAR INDICATIONS TO THAT EFFECT, SUCH AS DEFINING ELEMENTS OF NON-BELLIGERENCY WITHOUT CALLING RESULT NON-BELLIGERENCY. HAK IS MUTING HIS OWN INTEROPTIMISM IN PART, BECAUSE HE IS GOING TO SYRIA TOMORROW AND DOES NOT WANT TO RAISE SYRIAN SUSPICIONS ANYMORE THAN IS NECESSARY.

3. KOPPEL, ABC RADIO FROM TEL AVIV: BURDEN NOW RESTS SQUARELY ON ISRAELIS; HAK APPEARS TO FEEL THAT HE HAS EXTRACTED AS MUCH AS HE CAN FROM SADAT WITHOUT GETTING A

CONCRETE RESPONSE FROM ISRAEL. WHAT LEAVES IT A LITTLE CONFUSING, IS THAT FOR WEEKS NOW, THERE HAS BEEN TALK OF ISRAEL'S CONDITIONAL WILLINGNESS TO GIVE UP ABU RUDEIS OIL FIELDS AND MITLA AND GIDI PASSES. THAT, HOWEVER, HAS ALL BEEN INFORMAL WITHOUT APPROVAL OF ISRAEL'S CABINET. CABINET MEETS NEXT ON SUNDAY AND AT THAT TIME THEY WILL EITHER HAVE TO "BITE THE BULLET OR CONCEDE LIKELY FAILURE OF NEGOTIATIONS."

#### WIRES

1. AP, SCHWEID, JERUSALEM: HAK RETURNED FROM EGYPT TODAY TO URGE ISRAELIS TO ENLARGE AMOUNT OF EGYPTIAN TERRITORY THEY ARE WILLING TO RETURN.

SENIOR AMERICAN OFFICIALS TOLD NEWSMEN ACCOMPANYING HAK ON HIS FLIGHT FROM ASWAN THAT EGYPT HAD CONVEYED "SOMETHING ADDITIONAL." IF THERE IS TO BE A NEW SINAI AGREEMENT THERE MUST BE SOME 'INPUT' FROM ISRAEL, THE OFFICIAL SAID.

US OFFICIALS ACKNOWLEDGE THAT ISRAEL IS FACED WITH A "CRUNCH" SITUATION AND MUST EXPAND ITS INITIAL PROPOSAL IF AN AGREEMENT IS TO BE REACHED. THEY SAID ISRAELIS MUST CONSIDER REVISING THE TERRITORY IN SINAI DESERT THAT THEY ARE WILLING TO GIVE UP.

ISRAEL ORIGINALLY OFFERED TO RETREAT UP TO 30 MILES BUT WANTED TO HOLD ON TO GIDI AND MITLA PASSES AS WELL AS ABU UNCLASSIFIED

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RUDEIS OILFIELD.

"WE ARE MAKING PROGRESS SLOWLY AND I AM HOPEFUL WE CAN COME TO AN AGREEMENT, BUT IT IS FAR FROM GUARANTEED",HAK SAID DURING FLIGHT FROM ASWAN.

"WE HAVE PASSED FROM EXAMINING GENERAL PRINCIPLES TO CONCRETE IDEAS WHICH I WILL TAKE TO ISRAEL," SECRETARY SAID THURSDAY NIGHT AFTER A 2-1/2 HOUR MEETING WITH SADAT. "I WOULD EXPECT THERE WOULD BE SOME CONCRETE IDEAS (FROM ISRAELIS). I THINK ALL PARTIES HAVE AN INTEREST IN MOVING AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE."...

BEFORE HIS ARRIVAL, ISRAEL'S CHIEF OF STAFF, GEN GUR, WARNED THAT A BUILDUP OF PALESTINIAN GUERRILLA FORCES IN SOUTHERN LEBANON THREATENED RENEWED WARFARE.

HE SAID THAT "SEVERAL THOUSAND" PALESTINIAN TROOPS IN AREA APPARENTLY WERE RECEIVING ORDERS FROM SYRIA AND COULD TRY TO DISRUPT HAK'S PEACE MISSION IF SYRIA INSTRUCTED THEM TO.

2. UPI, JERUSALEM: A SENIOR OFFICIAL ABORAD HAK'S PLANE TODAY PREDICTED ISRAEL WOULD HAVE TO COME UP WITH SOMETHING NEW IN RETURN FOR "CONCRETE" EGYPTIAN PROPOSALS ON AN INTERIM ME PEACE SETTLEMENT...

PI USES AP. "MAKING PROGRESS" QUOTE.

HAK REPORTED THURSDAY THAT SADAT HAD COME UP WITH "CONCRETE IDEAS" FOR HIM TO RELAY TO ISRAEL, BUT SENIOR OFFICIALS SAID THEY WERE SHORT OF A FORMAL DIPLOMATIC PROPOSAL WHICH WOULD HAVE TO BE ACCEPTED OR REJECTED.

HE SAID TWO COUNTRIES HAVE NOT YET BEGUN TO PUT THINGS ON PAPER.

ISRAELI SOURCES HAVE SAID THAT BEFORE MAKING FURTHER PROPOSALS, ISRAEL WOULD HAVE TO KNOW WHAT POLITICAL CONCESSIONS SADAT WOULD MAKE IN RETURN FOR ITS WITHDRAWAL FROM TWO STRATEGIC MOUNTAIN PASSES AND ABU RUDEIS OIL UNCLASSIFIED

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FIELDS.

THE SENIOR OFFICIALS ON HAK'S PLANE SAID HE BELIEVED NOW WAS TIME FOR ISRAELIS TO CONSIDER REVISING THEIR LAST PROPOSAL, FIRST MADE IN DECEMBER, OFFERING TO WITHDRAW SHORT OF PASSES AND OIL FIELDS.

HE ALSO SAID SADAT HAS ANSWERED SOME OF POINTS RAISED PREVIOUSLY BY ISRAELIS, AND IT WOULD BE UP TO ISRAELIS TO DECIDE WHETHER ANSWERS ARE SATISFACTORY. HE SAID HE BELIEVED PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE....

NEWSPAPERS

1. WALL STREET JOURNAL REVIEW SECTION: CARRIES FEATURE KEATLEY FROM DAMASCUS REPORTING ASSAD IS LESS HOSTILE TO A ME PEACE SETTLEMENT THAN HE SOMETIMES SOUNDS. BUT HE CAN'T AFFORD TO BE TOO CONCILIATORY BECAUSE OF SHARP DIVISIONS WITHIN ARAB WORLD.

2. BALTSUN PAGE ONE CARRIES AP STORY.

3. NYTIMES, GWERTZMAN, PAGE 1, ASWAN: HAK SAID TONIGHT THAT HE HAD RECEIVED NEW IDEAS FROM SADAT THAT SHOULD ELICIT RESPONSES FROM ISRAEL AND ADVANCE NEGOTIATIONS FOR AN EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI DISENGAGEMENT IN SINAI PENINSULA.

AT A NEWS CONFERENCE WITH SADAT IN PRESIDENT'S VILLA, HAK SEEMED DETERMINED TO ALERT ISRAELI LEADERS...THAT HE HAD RECEIVED A PRECISE ENOUGH SET OF IDEAS FROM EGYPT TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR TWO SIDES TO BEGIN EXCHANGING

FORMAL PROPOSALS....

LATER, HAK SAID HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER LATEST IDEAS FROM SADAT WOULD BE ENOUGH TO INSURE AN AGREEMENT...

HAK SAID TONIGHT THAT HE AND SADAT, AND THEIR KEY AIDES, "HAD A VERY CONSTRUCTIVE AND FRUITFUL MEETING"....

... SADAT WAS EVASIVE ON SPECIFIC ISSUES. HE SAID IT WAS "PREMATURE" TO DESCRIBE HIS "CONCRETE IDEAS." ASKED IF UNCLASSIFIED

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HE WOULD AGREE TO ISRAELI INSISTENCE THAT THERE BE WRITTEN ASSURANCES BY EGYPT AGAINST STARTING A WAR, SADAT SAID:

"WE ARE NOT AIMING AT ALL AT STARTING ANY OFFENSIVE AGAINST ISRAEL, BUT ASSURANCES, MUST BE ON A RECIPROCAL BASIS. IT IS PREMATURE TO TALK ABOUT ANYTHING LIKE THAT."

A REPORTER ASKED WHETHER HE WOULD AGREE TO AN ISRAELI PROPOSAL THAT THERE BE JOINT PATROLS, AS WELL AS UN PATROLS, TO INSURE AGAINST ANY VIOLATIONS OF CEASE-FIRE. HE SAID HE WOULD NOT EXCLUDE SUCH AN IDEA.

SADAT SEEMED TO SOFTEN HIS PREVIOUS POSITION THAT THERE HAD TO BE SIMULTANEOUS PROGRESS ON SINAI FRONT...

ALL ISRAEL HAS TO DO NOW, HE SAID, IS TO MAKE "A GESTURE OF PEACE" ON THREE FRONTS.....

EMPHASIS ON "CONCRETE IDEAS" BY HAK WAS PART OF DIPLOMATIC LANGUAGE USED TO EXPLAIN PROGRESS IN NEGOTIATIONS.

ACTUALLY, AMERICAN OFFICIALS SAID ON SATURDAY THAT HAK HAD RECEIVED "PRECISE IDEAS" FROM SADAT TO BE TRANSMITTED TO ISRAEL, AND SADAT CONFIRMED THIS IN PRIVATE TO EGYPTIAN NEWSMEN. BUT ISRAEL RESPONDED COOLY TO IDEAS AND REFUSED TO MAKE ANY OFFICIAL RESPONSE. HAK PRE;UMABLY WAS SIGNALING ISRAELI THAT EGYPT'S LATEST "IDEAS" SHOULD BE TAKEN MORE SERIOUSLY.

SADAT WAS ASKED ABOUT ISRAELI RADIO REPORTS OF NEW SYRIAN AND EGYPTIAN TROOP MOVEMENTS. HE DENIED THAT EGYPT WAS CARRYING OUT A MILITARY BUILDUP OR INTENDED TO VIOLATE JANUARY 1974 DISENGAGEMENT ACCORD....

4. WASHPOST, BERGER, PAGE ONE, ASWAN: NEGOTIATIONS ON A NEW AGREEMENT BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL TOOK A SUBSTANTIAL STEP FORWARD LAST NIGHT, AS HAK ANNOUNCED THAT HE WAS TAKING CONCRETE IDEAS ON A SETTLEMENT BACK TO JERUSALEM WITH HIM FRIDAY.

SECRETARY SAID HE EXPECTED THAT EGYPTIAN PROPOSALS WOULD  
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MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR ISRAELI CABINET, WHICH IS TO MEET  
SUNDAY, TO DEVELOP ITS OWN SPECIFIC COUNTER PROPOSALS.

SADAT TOLD REPORTERS THAT HE DID NOT RULE OUT POSSIBILITY  
OF JOINT ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN PATROLS TO SUPERVISE NEW AGREEMENT.  
UNTIL NOW, EGYPT HAS REFUSED TO CONSIDER COMBINED  
ISRAELI AND EGYPTIAN PATROLS. ISRAEL HAS SOUGHT THEM AS  
EVIDENCE OF AN EGYPTIAN COMMITMENT AS PROCESS OF DIS-  
ENGAGEMENT MOVES FORWARD.

IN A BRIEF PRESS CONFERENCE, SADAT WAS ASKED WHETHER HE  
HAD CONSIDERED POSSIBILITY OF SUCH JOINT PATROLS AS PART  
OF THIS AGREEMENT.

"CERTAINLY," HE REPLIED.

FOLLOWING A 2-1/2 HOUR MEETING, HAK SHARING MICROPHONE WITH  
SADAT, MADE A BRIEF STATEMENT....

HAK SAID, THAT HE HAD NOT YET ARRIVED AT STAGE OF PRE-  
SENTING AMERICAN PROPOSALS THAT COULD BRIDGE GAP BETWEEN  
TWO SIDES.

IN HAK'S NEGOTIATING STRATEGY SUCH SUGGESTIONS ARE CUS-  
TOMARILY PROFFERED AT LAST MOMENT. NOR WAS HAK CARRYING  
ANY MAPS OR PIECES OF PAPER, HE SAID.

"AFTER LONG DISCUSSIONS WITH PRESIDENT AND HIS ASSOCIATES  
I THINK I CAN REFLECT THEIR THINKING IN A RATHER PRECISE  
MANNER WITHOUT A DOCUMENT."....

NEW AGREEMENT IS EXPECTED TO GO WELL BEYOND LAST YEAR'S  
DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT...

EGYPTIAN SOURCES SAY NEW AGREEMENT, LIKE LAST ONE WILL  
ALSO BE SIGNED BY MILITARY OFFICERS RATHER THAN POLITICAL  
OFFICIALS. AT FIRST ISRAEL WAS DEMANDING THAT RANKING  
CIVILIAN OFFICIALS, SUCH AS FMS, SIGN DOCUMENT.

AMERICAN OFFICIALS HAVE SAID THAT ANY AGREEMENT WOULD  
HAVE TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN PHASES, APPARENTLY WITH SUC-  
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CESSIVE ISRAELI WITHDRAWALS BEING MATCHED BY EGYPTIAN  
POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC MOVES....

SADAT ALSO KNOCKED DOWN REPORTS FROM ISRAEL THAT EGYPT

IS MOVING ITS TROOPS FORWARD IN PREPARATION FOR A NEW  
OFFENSIVE...

5. NYDAILY NEWS, CARTER, PAGE 5, ASWAN: HAK SAID TODAY  
THAT NEGOTIATIONS FOR A SECOND STAGE DISENGAGEMENT PACT  
BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL WERE "GOING AHEAD SLOWLY," AS  
HE HAD PREDICTED, BUT WERE "DEFINITELY" MAKING PROGRESS.

HE ADDED THAT NEXT WEEK WE SHOULD KNOW WHETHER AN AGREE-  
MENT IS POSSIBLE.

ONE IDEA BEING DISCUSSED WAS PHASED ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL  
OVER A PERIOD OF MONTHS FROM A LARGE PART OF SINAI,  
INCLUDING STRATEGIC MITLA AND GIDI PASSES AND ABU RUDEIS  
OIL FIELD.

AMERICAN OFFICIALS WERE DESCRIBED AS BELIEVING THAT, IF  
A NEW DISENGAGEMENT WAS AGREED UPON, ISRAELIS WOULD WANT  
A SLOW WITHDRAWAL IN PHASES TO GIVE THEM TIME TO CON-  
STRUCT A NEW DEFENSIVE LINE EAST OF PASSES.

....NEITHER SIDE HAS YET PUT FORWARD ANY CONCRETE PROPO-  
SALS.

IT ALSO WAS CLEAR THAT MAIN STICKING POINT IN NEGOTIATIONS  
WAS WHAT, IF ANY, POLITICAL GUARANTEES, EGYPT WOULD GIVE  
IN RETURN FOR A FURTHER ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL IN SINAI....  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 26 AUG 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE057871  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** S/PRS:SPOULAIN:AVW  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** D750090-0493  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750399/baaaagum.tel  
**Line Count:** 355  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN PRS  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 7  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27 MAR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <27 MAR 2003 by HageRS>; APPROVED <02 MAR 2004 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** n/a  
**TAGS:** OVIP, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)  
**To:** JERUSALEM  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006